

Context Sensitive Solutions

Session Abstract: Transportation agencies are now proactively using CSS principles as an important decision-making framework at all levels of transportation: from planning and programming, to project development, to construction, operations and maintenance. The three-pillars of transportation-oriented CSS support the development of collaborative solutions that (1) meet the transportation need, (2) serve as an asset to the community, and (3) protect and preserve the integrity of the natural and human environment. An important emphasis area is defining the "quality of life," which is critical to understanding context. The purpose of this course is to examine how CSS can currently enhance transportation decision-making at all functional levels. The program addresses the institutional factors within transportation agencies that can help or hinder the application of CSS principles, and presents case studies of state DOT efforts, including specific North Carolina projects.

Session Agenda:

DAY 1	
7:30-8:00 AM	Sign-in and Coffee
8:00 AM	Welcome and Self-Introductions
	Introduction to Context Sensitive Solutions (CSS)
	Overview of CSS
	Quality of Life: Defining Context
	Lunch (provided)
	Transportation Decision-making
	Communication and Collaboration
	Case Study Overview
	Exercise #1: Identifying Issues: Context Screening Tool and Class Discussion
5:00 PM	END
DAY 2	
7:30-8:00 AM	Sign-in and Coffee
8:00 AM	Stakeholder Involvement Considerations
	Exercise #2: Identifying Stakeholders and Involvement Techniques
	Environmental Considerations
	Lunch (provided)
	Exercise #3: Problem Definition Consensus
	Exercise #4: Project Vision Consensus
	CSS Considerations in Construction, Operations, and Maintenance
	Legal Benefits of CSS
5:00 PM	END
DAY 3	
7:30-8:00 AM	Sign-in and Coffee
8:00 AM	Engineering Considerations: Design Criteria
	Engineering Considerations: Exercising Design Flexibility
	Engineering Considerations: Thinking Beyond the Pavement
	Exercise #5: Developing Evaluation Criteria / Group Presentations
	Lunch (provided)
	Exercise #6: Solution Consensus
	Class Presentations / Discussion on Solutions
	Course Summary
	Course Evaluations and Presentation of Certificates
4:00 PM	END

Note: Agenda sequence subject to change